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Arafat agrees to full security cooperation

By JAY BUSHINSKY and JON IMMANUEL
American peace envoy Dennis Ross is extending his stay by 24 hours to monitor the initial effectiveness of the newly reconstituted security cooperation between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.
PA Chairman Yasser Arafat last night agreed to resume full security coordination with Israel, but asked that the US remain involved as "a witness" to testify that Palestinian efforts are genuine.
In his fourth meeting with Ross, a 45-minute session in Ramallah, Arafat revealed "the good news" which persuaded Ross to delay his departure for a day.

Planning Minister Nabil Shaath, one of the participants in the talks, told reporters that "Palestinians agreed to resume full security coordination, but prefer that the American side will be a witness."
This reflects the words of Arafat's adviser Nabil Abu Rudeineh, who said Monday that Arafat wants the US to be a "witness and a judge." Abu Rudeineh said last night that he would not describe yesterday's meeting as breakthrough, but hopes it would come in today's meetings.
Shaath said that the PA would "try to persuade" Israel to accept a permanent US role in security coordination. Ross is

expected to meet this morning with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to raise this matter, and then to meet again with Arafat at 5 p.m.
Ross said that the efforts would help prepare for the visit of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright later this month, and he expressed the hope that the measures would build trust.
A senior government aide lauded the US diplomat for having succeeded in "getting the sides to sit down together and in setting up a mechanism that can bring results." However, he noted that the question yet to be answered is whether this first step will be followed by additional steps "to be taken by the Palestinians."

Ross conferred with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai before entering his fourth round of talks with Netanyahu and Arafat.
Mordechai reiterated the government's view that it will be impossible to renew the bilateral negotiations with the Palestinians on outstanding issues, or to take the risks inherent in easing the security measures taken since the Mahaneh Yehuda suicide bombings two weeks ago, until there is convincing evidence the PA is taking practical measures to fight terrorism.
Sitting in on the Mordechai-Ross meeting were Chief of General Staff Lt.

Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and US Ambassador Martin Indyk.
Commenting on the progress made since his arrival last Saturday night, Ross said, "We have a beginning, we have a step in the right direction, but we need to see results. What we'll be looking for, what we'll be watching, is in fact how this process develops and whether or not it produces results."
He contended that everything must be evaluated by the test of time and that anyone who believes that the problems at hand can be solved in such a short time is not realistic.
Netanyahu agreed with Ross that security is the focal point, noting that it

includes the PA's fulfillment of its commitment to fight the terrorist organizations and their infrastructure.
We are not interested in meetings for the sake of meetings, Netanyahu went on. We are interested in meetings which are a result of ongoing activities, and in tangible results which we can see on the ground and which we can discuss at meetings. The prime minister called on the PA to imprison the terrorists' leaders as well as terrorists who are liable to carry out murderous attacks, such as the one at the Mahaneh Yehuda market.
See ARAFAT, Page 2

Netanyahu to meet Hussein in Akaba
By JAY BUSHINSKY
Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's purpose in flying to Akaba today for a summit with King Hussein evidently differs from that of his royal host in inviting him.
While the king reportedly intends to urge Netanyahu to ease if not lift the two-week long closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the prime minister plans to explain why the measures must persist until the Palestinian Authority purges its domain of terror groups.
"He will explain to the king that the closure cannot be terminated until the PA changes its conduct," Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said.
Paraphrasing the points Netanyahu is expected to make, Bar-Ilan said "no responsible government can ignore the demands of its security forces when they contend it will be easier to forestall and prevent another terrorist attack if a closure is imposed."
Jordanian Foreign Minister Fayez Tarouneh was quoted by Reuters as saying the monarch will ask the prime minister to modify the sanctions imposed on the PA's population since the Mahaneh Yehuda suicide bombings two weeks ago.
"There has been some relaxation of some measures," Tarouneh reportedly said, "but we are not satisfied. Many of the steps were totally unjustified."
The least controversial topic to be aired will be Netanyahu's assessment of American peace envoy Dennis Ross's sessions with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. His briefing on the Ross mission is expected to be positive and complimentary.
However, Netanyahu will stress that his "first responsibility is the safety of Israel's citizens," which he expects Hussein will understand, Bar-Ilan said.
Bar-Ilan countered Tarouneh's reference to Israel's withholding of revenues from the PA, by alleging that this money "is used mainly for the Palestinian Police." He alluded to charges that PA Police Chief Ghazi Jabali was responsible for the dispatch of personnel on a terrorist mission.
"For us to pay the salaries of those trying to kill us is ludicrous. If we see a change in the PA's stance in dealing with terrorism we will lift the sanctions on a sliding-scale principle," Bar-Ilan said.
Immediately after returning from Akaba, Netanyahu will take a four-day vacation. Informed sources said he intends to tour the northern region in a demonstration of solidarity with citizenry living within range of Katyusha rockets.

Assad: PM is enemy of peace



Syrian President Hafez Assad (right) greets Labor MK Salah Tarif in Damascus yesterday. Tarif said later he 'fell in love with Assad.'

Syrian leader tells Israeli Arabs all options are open

By LIAT COLLINS and news agencies
Syria wants peace but is keeping its options open, Syrian President Hafez Assad reportedly told the visiting delegation of Israeli Arabs in Damascus yesterday.
The agreements reached with the Labor government are international agreements and anyone who

denies them is not seriously seeking peace, he added.
"We will not agree to start the talks from zero and cancel those agreements we spent five years reaching," Assad said, according to Israel Radio.
He also described Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu as "strange" and said he keeps changing his conditions for peace.
Assad reportedly described the current situation as "terrible" and said he hopes it does not get worse. "We want peace and if we did not there could not have been a peace process," presidential spokesman Joubran Kourieh quoted Assad as telling the 44-member delegation, which includes Labor and Meretz MKs.
"No one likes war... and when [people] are under occupation they want to end it. War is very ugly and we hope that we will not reach something that is worse than what we have now," Assad said.
Assad also said Damascus would not accept a peace that did not return the Golan Heights to Syria.
"We will not surrender, and we will not accept [anything] but a just and comprehensive peace," he said. "Syria did not stop the peace process. The process was moving forward and Netanyahu stopped it and wants to pull it back now."
He praised the previous Labor government and its leader, Shimon Peres. He said it was easier to deal with Labor, although sometimes they argued for months over a single point.
MK Walid Sadek (Meretz) told reporters after the meeting that Assad characterized Netanyahu as "an enemy of peace" and said "his attitude might lead to dire consequences." Assad joked about Yasser Arafat but said there is no personal enmity between them. "Lately, I have learned things about him I did not know before," Assad reportedly said, but would not elaborate.
See ASSAD, Page 2

PM fires Suissa, signs on Reform religious council appointment

By BATSHEVA TSUR and LIAT COLLINS
Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu fired Religious Affairs Minister Eli Suissa late last night and signed on the papers making official the appointment of a Reform representative, Dr. Joyce Brenner, to the Netanya Religious Council, Israel Radio reported.
Netanyahu took this step after learning that Suissa, after meeting with Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef and MK Aryeh Deri, decided not to resign today, as he had earlier said he would. Suissa had refused to sign on the appointment, despite the High Court of Justice's ruling last week upholding it.
It was not clear whether Suissa would be reinstated to the post.
Religious parties, meanwhile, made plans to introduce bills to circumvent the ruling - a so-called High Court-bypass law, which would have synagogues choose council members. This would ensure that the councils remain bastions of the Orthodox. Media reports say Netanyahu has tacitly agreed.
Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi was circumspect.
"We will have to study this legislation," he said, adding that the attorney-general and Knesset would have to decide "whether it fits with existing legislative norms." At the same time, Conservative and Reform representatives were gearing up to get more members appointed to religious councils.
Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Yigal Bibi, of the National Religious Party, warned that more such appointments could cause riots.
NRP head and Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who takes over

the Religious Affairs portfolio in two weeks said he is worried that non-Orthodox Jews may also demand seats on religious courts.



Eli Suissa (Isaac Harari)

By Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies
WASHINGTON - The Palestinian Authority was expected to shut its office here last night but the Clinton administration will pursue diplomatic contacts with the authority and US assistance to Palestinian projects.
The closing, scheduled for midnight Washington time, was caused by the expiration of a law that allowed the office to operate even though the Palestine Liberation Organization is still classified as a terrorist group.
Hassan Abdel Rahman, the senior Palestinian representative, predicted that the closure would hurt peace efforts, although he would still be permitted to maintain diplomatic contacts in the US capital.
"It's stupid, ridiculous and reckless," Rahman said yesterday. "It's a negative message to the Palestinian people. It does not in any way help to advance the peace process. On the contrary."
Overall, the impact on relations

PA forced to shut Washington office

between the administration and the PA will be slight. American mediator Dennis Ross is continuing meetings with the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to try to revive negotiations with Israel, and the US consulate in east Jerusalem remains in touch with Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
See OFFICE, Page 2

Next year in Jerusalem: Nathan's hot dogs!

By MARI-LYN HENRY and news agencies
Frankly speaking, Israel is getting another American import.
Eighty years after Nathan Handwerker, a Polish immigrant, first pitched his hot-dog stand in Coney Island, Brooklyn, Nathan's Famous has granted a hot-dog franchise that is to open 10 restaurants here over the next five years.
"Obviously, the fit between Nathan's and Israel is strong," said Rick Boudreaux, Nathan's executive vice president. The hot dog is a "portable product [that would be] popular in areas with food on the go."

The franchise granted to Natanel, an Israeli-Brooklyn group of investors, is Nathan's first international venture. Natanel must open a minimum of two restaurants a year for five years under its franchise agreement. The first are expected to open next year in Jerusalem and Netanya. All are to be kosher.
The group, said Nathan's president Wayne Norbitz, includes Susan Lasher, the wife of New York City Councilman Howard Lasher, her brothers, Mark and Jimmy Ligorski, and Denny Goshen, an Israeli restaurant owner.
The company had received numerous inquiries over the years from Israel.

Lasher's group offered a good prospect, because family members plan to move to Israel to work on the business, Norbitz said. They have restaurant experience and are well capitalized.
The hot-dog chain, which was sold by the Handwerker family in 1987, has expanded from a single stand in 1916 to more than 300 locations in 22 states, generating sales of nearly \$116 million last year.
Will Nathan's go kosher in its home market? "We've been approached by a group that wants the rights to open a Nathan's kosher format in the United States," said Norbitz.

Marines shielding Iwo Jima monument

WASHINGTON (Washington Post)
-The Air Force Memorial, planned for a site near the Iwo Jima Memorial, may be kicked off that location if the US Marine Corps and a New York congressman have their way.
Although the Air Force Memorial Foundation received site approval more than two years ago from two

key federal commissions, Rep. Gerald Solomon, (R-NY), a former Marine, was outraged when he heard from concerned neighbors recently that the monument was to be built about 500 feet from the Marine memorial.
See MARINES, Page 12

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Captive audience
Demonstrators outside the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv yesterday call for better treatment for military prison inmates. The protest follows a 24-hour riot over the weekend at Prison No. 6 at Atlit, when inmates took guards hostage. (Dana Stern/Israel Sun)

Yarkon toxins caused delayed drownings

By JUDY SHEGEL

Some victims of the Maccabiah footbridge collapse suffered a delayed drowning reaction believed caused by toxins in the Yarkon River, a Health Ministry report issued yesterday says. The report by Ministry director-general Prof. Gabi Barabash said that victims apparently inhaled poisonous substances, mostly hydrocarbons found in heavy fuels, which can cause lipid pneumonia and damage the heart and kidneys. Tests were still being conducted on Yarkon water to determine which toxins are present.

An ordinary drowning victim can often be revived without suffering heart damage, but some Maccabiah victims suffered heart failure because they developed respiratory distress only hours or even two days after the accident, the report said. For these victims, it was "not a case of simple drowning," said Barabash, who submitted his Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled, the chief investigator of the July 13 tragedy which occurred minutes before the opening ceremony for the Maccabiah Games in Ramat Gan. Family and friends of Warren

Zines, the accident's fourth fatality, who was buried in Australia Monday, accused Israel of being nonchalant about the probe. Zines' son, Adam, who spent three weeks at his father's bedside, called it "a disgrace that something like this happened, it showed a total lack of respect for human life." "They need to be punished for what they have done. Their attitude that everything will be all right is not good enough," Zines told Israel Radio. "I am very angry at the attitude of the Israeli people. I know it is not all Israelis, but the attitude has got to change."

Israel to sign convict-transfer treaty with Thailand

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Israel and Thailand are to sign a treaty today authorizing the transfer of prisoners from one country to the other. The agreement falls under a law, passed last year by the Knesset, governing the transfer of prisoners between countries. It enables Israeli citizens serving time in foreign jails to be transferred to Israel where they will continue their imprisonment. The law also allows the same privileges to foreigners imprisoned in Israeli jails. Three Israelis who have been imprisoned in Thailand for a minimum of eight years will be eligible to apply to the Thai authorities for transfer, Justice Ministry spokesman Ety Eshed said yesterday. But another three do not meet the criteria, she said. Most of the Israelis were jailed for drug abuse. The number of Thai citizens jailed in Israel was not available. According to the agreement, a prisoner must have served a third of his sentence or at least four years in the foreign jail in order to be eligible for transfer. Thailand has signed a similar agreement with six other countries and has stressed that it has especially friendly ties with these countries, Eshed said.

4 yeshiva students held for murder

Four yeshiva students have been arrested in the killing yesterday of Mahmoud Abu Sara, 74, a gas-station attendant in the Sheikh Jarrah section of Jerusalem. Abu Sara died trying to prevent the suspects from driving off without paying for gas. Late yesterday afternoon, two yeshiva students, aged 18 and 22, apparently passengers in the car, gave themselves up to police. Police had sought arrest warrants for the other two, whose identities were known to them, but the two - one of whom is the driver - turned themselves in before the warrants could be served. The two remaining suspects, also yeshiva students, are 20 and 15. All four are to be brought before a judge today for a remand hearing. After their car filled up at the gas station early yesterday morning, the driver attempted to speed off without paying for the gas. Abu Sara grabbed onto one of the car's windows in an attempt to get the driver to stop. The driver kept going, however, and dragged the attendant hanging from the window for several hundred meters, until the car passed close to a line of parked vehicles and Abu Sara was slammed into a stationary van and fell to the ground. A Magen David Adom doctor pronounced him dead. The four later abandoned the car. (Itim)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW MICHAL YUDELMAN

US Jews in no one's pocket
It is not difficult to discern a warning signal towards the White House and American administration in the reactions from the Prime Minister's Office to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's speech at the National Press Club last week, writes Ha'aretz's Ze'ev Schiff.

These warnings, at times issued via Israeli political commentators, advise the White House not to push Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the wall, for he has "divisions" in the US, mainly in the form of Jewish clout. Schiff, who perceives the warnings as Netanyahu's flexing his muscles in anticipation of the final-status talks, points out two grave mistakes in this attitude. First, you don't threaten, even in hints, our large strategic friend and especially such a supportive administration as President Clinton's. Second, it is not certain US Jewry is fully behind Netanyahu, as people in his office believe, he says.

Clinton, Schiff continues, has been receiving entirely different messages from Jewish leaders, indicating a change is taking place in US Jewry's position towards Israel, because of Netanyahu's government. The turning point was especially noticed following the preliminary passage of the conversion bill, but also derives from the suspicion that Netanyahu is leading the peace process to a dead end, writes Schiff. Some of these Jewish leaders are urging Clinton explicitly to exert pressure on Netanyahu.

In general, the assessment in the Foreign Ministry and Israeli Embassy in Washington, in contrast to the one in the Prime Minister's Office, is that American Jewish support of Netanyahu is not automatic, and cannot be taken for granted before every move.

Plan to raise unemployment
Hanna Kim writes in Ha'aretz that it is not certain the Treasury's "plan to increase growth," which is being considered by the cabinet, will do so. What is certain is that the plan will increase unemployment, harm the pension rights of the workers who haven't been fired yet and shatter the stability of the last safe saving fund they have left.

The damage to the workers' pension plans is especially malicious, notes Kim, since it puts the workers in a state of constant uncertainty: They know how much they pay each month for their pension, but they don't know how much they'll get in return when they retire. At the same time, people fired after 20 to 25 years of work are going to find it harder to collect unemployment compensation, as though this is charity by the government, rather than a right the workers have paid for every month in deductions to the National Insurance Institute.

In preparation for the battle on the budget and this plan, Netanyahu has managed to delegitimize the Histadrut and give it an image of an element blocking the economy's development. But the one really blocking the economy's development is neither the Histadrut nor the work-

ers. Low wage costs, which the government is trying to instate, are characteristic of Third World and developing countries, while developed states have high labor costs, she points out. Wherever there is cheap mass labor, there is less motivation to develop the economy, technology and science. The Histadrut must therefore fight this plan to prevent the continued erosion of workers' rights, stop the persecution of the unemployed and provide an answer to its own delegitimization.

Political appointments
Of the controversial appointment of Foreign Minister David Levy's protégé, Shmuel Siso, as consul-general in New York, Nahum Barnea in Yedioth Aharonot observes that appointments in Israel are not made on the basis of a candidate's former success, but of where he served previously, or rather, where he was kicked out of.

As examples he brings two other proteges of Levy's, Uri Oren and Dror Zeigerman, who, despite having failed at all their former positions, were appointed ambassadors in South Africa and Britain, respectively. Minister Rafael Eitan is the classic Israeli example, says Barnea: "Eitan, whose wretched term as chief of staff was ended by a state inquiry commission, failed as agriculture minister in one term, so was therefore sent to complete a second term in the same ministry. Eitan, who appointed his former driver director-general of his first ministry, and his political assistant director-general of his second ministry."

Barnea blasts Civil Service Commissioner Shmuel Hollander for opposing Siso's appointment, as did ministers Eitan and Natan Sharansky. For this same Hollander didn't utter a peep when the prime minister's director-general Avigdor Lieberman made a series of unworthy, completely political appointments, and even boasted about it in the media. Nor did Hollander open his mouth when Levy appointed Oren and Zeigerman, notes Barnea.

Siso may seem inadequate, he grants. He has no experience and no background in working with Jewish organizations in New York. His knowledge of America is superficial and his chances of dealing with the New York media successfully are slim. However Siso, who was a success story as Kiryat Yam mayor, should have no difficulty being more balanced than Eitan, more courageous than Hollander, harder working than Oren and more representative than Lieberman. Let's cross our fingers for him, says Barnea.

Telephone harassment
Yoel Marcus in Ha'aretz focuses on the various forms of telephone intrusion by pollsters and aggressive salespeople, which he says have become a national plague, turning the telephone into the enemy within.

"It usually happens at the most infuriating time. Just when you're in the shower or standing on a ladder taking down winter clothes from storage, or riveted to the evening news - the phone

rings. In this situation there is nobody more anxious than the average Israeli - he will descend any ladder in any state, emerge half naked from the bath, only to answer the phone." On the other end of the line, someone called Anat or Shiri or Miri tries to sell you a subscription to the Cameri, or a time-share apartment or a place in an old folks' home. Or it's someone asking for a contribution to some cause, or scaring you into getting an emergency ambulance service. The most intrusive are the pollsters, who ask you what television station you're watching, how much you and your

wife make, what car you drive, how many rooms are in your apartment and whom you vote for. "The worst telephone intruder is the one who knows about us more than we imagine. Death in the family? Tele-something offers you a tombstone at a bargain. Registered to be married at the Rabbinate? Tele-gifts is on the line. Passed the age of 60? They offer you diapers for older people. The information reservoirs from Bezek, the banks, and credit cards, are wide open and know everything about us," laments Marcus. "It's the vision of 1984 come true."

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סופר קואופ היפר קואופ

Clinton uses line-item veto

New power, used to undo tax breaks, can affect legislation tactics

By JOHN F. HARRIS

WASHINGTON (Washington Post) — President Bill Clinton, exercising a power that presidents have coveted for more than a century, used his new line-item veto authority Monday to strike down three items in the tax and spending bills he signed into law last week.

Clinton said his vetoes would "ensure that national interests prevail over narrow interests" by eliminating what he called "unjustifiable or wasteful" spending and tax breaks that would cost an estimated \$615 million over five years.

But his action drew sharp protests from those it affected, as well as Republicans who said it violated the spirit of the bipartisan budget accord celebrated at a White House signing ceremony last week.

The line-item veto law, which Clinton signed last year and which was part of the GOP's "Contract With America" before the 1994

elections, is designed to give the president the ability to reject special-interest measures that are routinely attached to major legislation to avoid a debate on their merits.

Aides said Clinton, despite what officials called "wings of caution" from Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, was determined to use the authority at the first opportunity. In an Oval Office ceremony Monday, he said the vetoes would serve for lawmakers as a "deterrent against the most egregious kinds of projects that would otherwise not be funded."

But his action Monday raised the prospect of protracted campaigns to overturn the vetoes in Congress or to challenge the constitutionality of the entire line-item veto law in the courts.

Two of the items Clinton vetoed were from the tax side of the balanced-budget accord he enacted and one was from the spending side.

All three involved highly complicated provisions — not the local road projects, tourism subsidies and the

like that critics usually point to when railing against "pork-barrel spending."

One of the tax vetoes was against a provision that would allow US-based insurance companies, banks and investment firms to delay taxes from overseas income. Administration officials said the measure, with an estimated cost of \$317 million over five years, had some merit but was loosely drawn and could be easily abused to allow businesses to use off-shore tax havens to escape paying taxes.

The other tax veto was against an item that administration and congressional tax experts said would primarily benefit a single transaction: the sale by a Texas businessman of sugar beet processing plants to the tax side of the balanced-budget accord he enacted and one was from the spending side.

All three involved highly complicated provisions — not the local road projects, tourism subsidies and the

special rules that allowed it to get higher Medicaid payments from the federal government. Treasury officials estimated the five-years savings on this to be \$200 million.

Gov. George Pataki (R) called the veto a "body blow" to his state's health care system, and pledged that his administration "will fight in Congress and in the courts" to reverse the veto.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a champion of the line-item veto, objected to Clinton's using it on tax and spending bills that had been passed after protracted bipartisan negotiations.

A spokeswoman said Gingrich felt "blindsided" by Clinton's action, and said the fact that administration officials waited until the budget accord was reached before raising the objections showed "these vetoes may have less to do with sound policy and more to do with petty politics."

ANALYSIS

New veto no panacea

By CLAY CHANDLER

WASHINGTON (Washington Post) — In wielding his line-item veto for the first time Monday, President Clinton said he meant to "send a signal that the Washington rules have changed for good." Apparently, the signal lost something in transmission.

Even as Clinton scratched three narrow proposals from balanced budget and tax legislation he signed last week, interest groups — along with the lawmakers and lobbyists who represent them — were hatching legislative and political strategies to protect such future provisions from a similar fate. Tax proposals in particular offer many opportunities to circumvent the intention of the president's new authority.

The conclusion drawn by many Washington budget experts was not that the line-item veto had abolished what Clinton called "the old game of slipping a provision into a massive bill in hope that no one will notice." Rather, the dominant view was that Clinton's use of his new veto powers means simply the old game will now require a bit more skill.

Interest groups "are going to take much greater care in drafting their provisions," said Rick Grafmeyer, director for tax policy at the accounting firm of Ernst &

Young and a former Senate Finance Committee staffer.

On the tax side, fiscal experts already are contemplating measures to ensure pet proposals have more than 100 beneficiaries. That is because the line-item veto law only grants the president authority to eliminate tax provisions after they have been certified by Congress's Joint Committee on Taxation as benefiting fewer than 100 people or firms in a single year.

Analysts Monday suggested a number of strategies for getting off the Joint Committee's hit list, including:

- Structuring corporate tax breaks so they benefit shareholders rather than firms. Clinton aides had targeted a tax break benefiting Amway Corp., but because the provision was tied to dividends it did not make the veto list.
- Pairing large tax breaks for a handful of beneficiaries with similar small breaks spread among a large number of beneficiaries.
- Clumping tax breaks in broad, catchall categories wherever possible to expand the number of beneficiaries.

Consider a provision vetoed by Clinton that would have granted a \$317 million tax break to banks, securities firms and insurers doing business overseas. More than 100

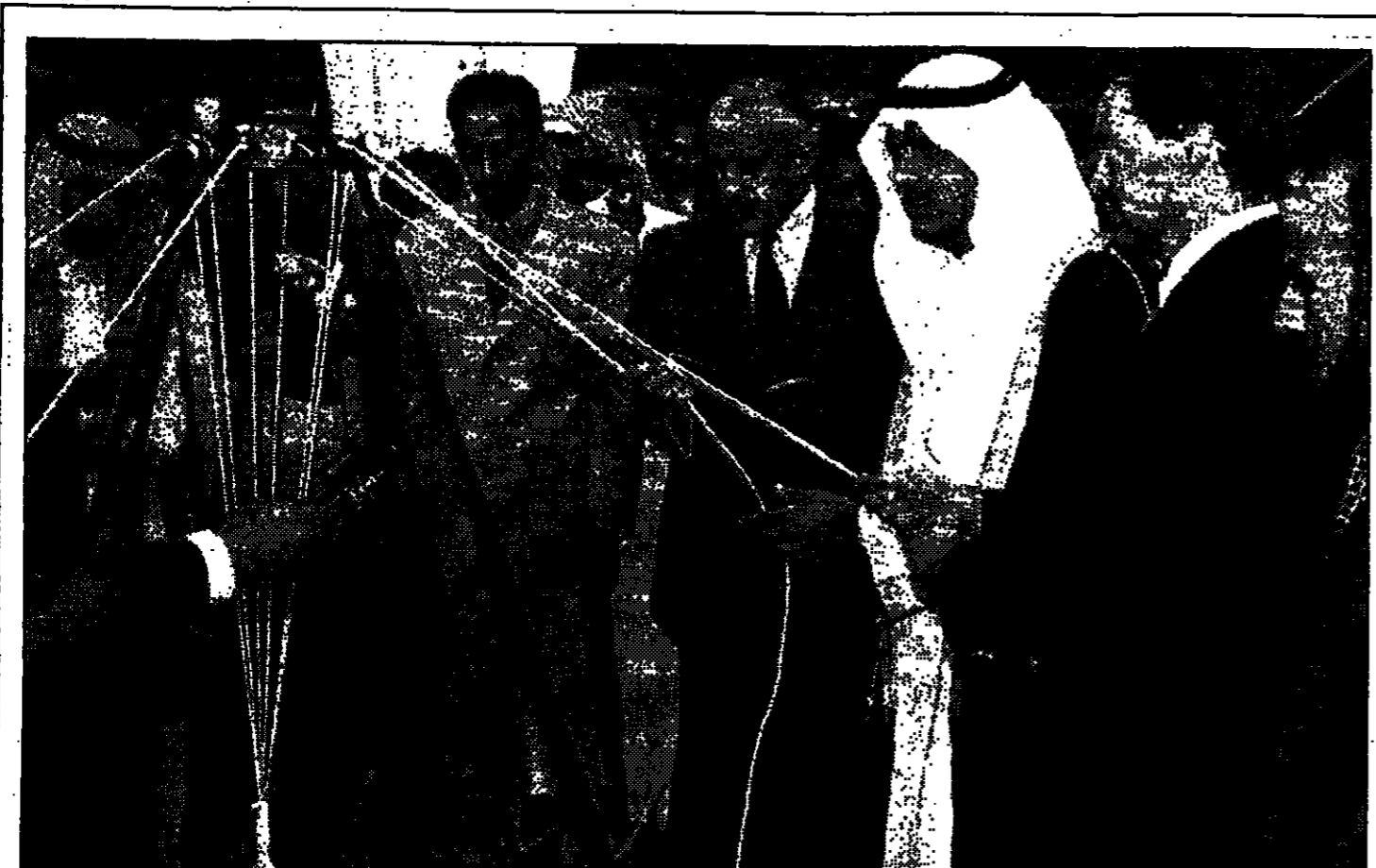
financial institutions would benefit from that provision. But because some of the firms use different accounting periods than others, most would claim the break immediately while a handful of stragglers would not do so until 1999.

Grafmeyer argues that the firms could have stayed off the veto list had they made sure everyone claimed their benefit in the same fiscal year.

Indeed, he contends that as many as three-quarters of the 79 provisions singled out by congressional tax analysts as subject to the line-item veto, could have kept off the veto list with similarly modest technical adjustments.

On the spending side, legislative analysts expect lawmakers to seek protection for pet spending proposals by grouping them with initiatives favored by the president. That is because the line-item veto gives the president power to strike an entire spending item from a bill but does not give him authority to reduce the expenditure of that item by a specific amount.

A congressman seeking money for new roads or bridges in his district might wedge it in an environmental spending bill favored by the White House — without identifying a specific dollar amount for the project.



Spanish mosque
Saudi Prince Abdulaziz al-Saud (third from right) helps to lay the cornerstone of an Islamic cultural center and mosque in Malaga, Spain, on Monday. The structure will serve the Arab population of southern Spain. (AP)

California governor OK's welfare reform

By VIRGINIA ELLIS

SACRAMENTO (Los Angeles Times) — After months of partisan warfare and weeks of hard-nosed bargaining, Governor Pete Wilson signed into law a historic reform package Monday transforming welfare in California into a program that provides only temporary aid to the poor and requires work in return for assistance.

With legislative leaders standing at his elbow, the Republican governor formally set into motion revolutionary changes in the welfare law that will affect 2.3 million people, mostly women and children who depend on government assistance for the basic necessities of life. "This was not an easy task, but in the end the effort produced a solution based on very sound and very equitable principles," Wilson said.

Wilson said, "From now on, public assistance in California will be temporary, it will be a transition, it will be strictly time-limited," he said.

The new program, named CalWORKS and slated to go into effect January 1, will limit to 24 months the time current recipients can be on aid.

It also will provide community service positions for those who reach that limit and cannot find work. require recipients to participate in job searches and job training and penalize those who refuse to accept a valid job offer.

Mirroring a federal welfare reform act passed a year ago, the program sets a five-year lifetime limit for adults to receive aid, but at the same time it obligates the state to make massive investments in job training and child care to ease

their movement into the work force.

In the first year, state officials estimate \$1.3 billion will be spent on child care and \$530 million on employment.

Because of the investments in child care and training, the \$7 billion-plus welfare program initially will not produce savings. And, in the first year, the *Legislative Analyst* estimates welfare spending will increase by \$223 million.

But the program — designed to comply with the new federal law — is expected to significantly reduce welfare rolls in the next five years and result in cost reductions.

Legislative leaders, many of whom only a week ago were exchanging barbs with the governor, praised the reform package as an example of compromise at its best.

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The new program, named CalWORKS and slated to go into effect January 1, will limit to 24 months the time current recipients can be on aid.

It also will provide community service positions for those who reach that limit and cannot find work. require recipients to participate in job searches and job training and penalize those who refuse to accept a valid job offer.

Mirroring a federal welfare reform act passed a year ago, the program sets a five-year lifetime limit for adults to receive aid, but at the same time it obligates the state to make massive investments in job training and child care to ease

Clinton and Blair: A trans-Atlantic love affair

By AUDREY GILLAN

WASHINGTON (Washington Post) — British Ambassador Sir John Kerr jokingly told a recent luncheon that he was returning to his homeland because there was nothing left for him to do in Washington. President Clinton and the British prime minister, Tony Blair, are getting on so well, he said, that the opportunity for diplomats to heal any political rifts seems to have gone.

The so-called special relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom has become something of a "new special relationship" in the months since the May 1 election of the New Labor government in Britain. Whenever the two leaders meet, the ambassador said, they can be seen huddled in a corner

shooting the breeze like old friends. Conversation can range from welfare policy and education to guitar riffs and how to raise a child out of the public eye.

The closeness of the new special relationship was to be reaffirmed next month when Blair was to make his first official visit to Washington. But the two leaders cannot find a date that suits them.

Clinton wants to help daughter Chelsea settle in at Stanford University and Blair has both political and family commitments.

A British Embassy spokesman said there is no "lack of desire for the visit. It purely is a diary problem." Marsha Berry, a spokeswoman for Hillary Rodham Clinton, agreed: "It's a scheduling problem and nothing else."

The ease with which the two lead-

ers get on contrasts with what many observed as chilly cordiality between Clinton and former British prime minister John Major. Some put this down to the Conservative party having parachuted help into the Republicans' 1992 presidential campaign, especially after the allegation that Major's government investigated whether Clinton tried to avoid the draft by becoming a British citizen in 1968 when he was a Rhodes scholar at Oxford.

Clinton and Major eventually developed a working relationship but it could not have been described as warm.

The bonding between Clinton and Blair marks a success for what has been termed the "Blair mafia," movers and shakers who have worked on Blair's image in the US.

"We think Blair's image is very

important here. Clearly the Americans regard him as a leading European politician," said Chris Jones, secretary of the Labor party branch for British citizens living in the United States.

"For many, Britain is America's window on Europe. If you can cultivate the special relationship and bring Tony Blair into the spotlight I think we are doing our job."

Washington, for Blair, is crucial. Britain invests more in the United States than in any other country; conversely, Americans are the biggest foreign investors in Britain. Accordingly, the Labor leader has had many supporters working in the capital and in New York to promote him as a powerful politician, one who is able to ensure economic stability and growth and reassure American investors that Britain is

good business and is in good hands.

Blair has worked to overcome the suspicion with which Labor leaders have been regarded here. After a struggle, Blair abolished the historic Labor tract that committed the party to the nationalization of British industry and began to talk of New Labor as the party of business.

The importance of Washington was emphasized by the recent announcement by the British government that the new British ambassador would be Christopher Meyer, John Major's former press secretary and currently British envoy in Bonn. The appointment was seen in Bonn as a clear indication Britain gives political priority to America over Germany. Meyer, said to be "highly thought of" by Blair, was the prime minister's personal choice.

Until 1992 there was a degree of

antipathy toward the United States within the Labor party, said Keith Tazewell, chairman of the US branch of the party. But that began to change with the election of Clinton in 1992.

The pro-Blair PR machine has swung swiftly into operation and Blair and his wife Cherie, a lawyer, have been presented to the American public as a good-looking couple who have no sordid skeletons in their closet. At a recent party in New York hosted by Harold Evans, the British president of publisher Random House, and his wife Tina Brown, editor of the *New Yorker*, the Blairs mingled with celebrities such as Martin Scorsese, Henry Kissinger, Lauren Bacall and Barbara Walters. The British people who attended were dubbed "cocktail socialists" by the British press.

Some in the Blair mafia dismiss

such parties as inconsequential events that mask the serious work being done on Labor's behalf. Since Clinton's 1992 campaign the bond between Democratic advisers and Labor party insiders has continued to solidify. Jonathan Powell, Blair's chief of staff, was a catalyst for the changing relationship when he worked here at the British Embassy as first secretary during Clinton's first presidential campaign.

Powell established relationships with key Clinton aides, many of whom have tuned into the New Labor message. They include journalist-turned-White House aide Sidney Blumenthal, Democratic pollster Stanley Greenberg, former White House official George Stephanopoulos and Paul Begala, a former Clinton adviser who is about to join the White House staff.

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An unholy alliance

On Monday night, as during this past Shavuot, an altercation marred the beginning of Tisha Be'Av, the day of mourning marking the destruction of the First and Second Temples...

movements are trying to do is pray according to their customs - at the Wall, but out of the earshot, and even the sight of, those praying at the Wall itself. The religious authorities and the police point to the fact that the "local practice" regulation applies to the entire holy place...

OPINION



Last chance for the peace process

We sat in a corner of the lobby of the King David Hotel, some time before the Mahaneh Yehuda bombing, discussing the sad situation of the peace process. Our interlocutor was a prominent Palestinian personality, one of the founding members of the Copenhagen-based International Alliance for Arab-Israeli Peace.

DAVID KIMCHE

State Madeleine Albright will bring to Jerusalem if she comes at the end of the month. The alternative to such a suggestion will be a downright demand that we cease all construction work at Har Homa and in the settlements, and our government would then be faced with the dire prospect of a head-on confrontation with the American administration.

There is still time for the prime minister and his team of advisors to surprise us all with some constructive thinking

Her recent visit to the Balkans, where she berated the Croats and the Serbs in the strongest possible undiplomatic language, is a case in point. Both she and President Clinton have clearly and unequivocally stated their objection to Har Homa and to our settlement policy.

from the peace process and allowed us to stew in our own juice has come to an end. "The time for some hard decisions has come," she declared, leaving unspoken what would be the outcome if those "hard decisions" were not forthcoming.

The wrong battle

DAVID J. FORMAN

It was the wrong place, at the wrong time, and perhaps the wrong issue. It was indeed a provocation. But the principle was absolutely correct. Equality is a right, not a privilege; and should be extended to all.

Should integrating the Wall become the focal point of the struggle for recognition for non-Orthodox religious Jews?

At the same time, with heightened security considerations because of the recent bombing in Mahaneh Yehuda, it is the height of chutzpa to pick Erev Tisha Be'Av, when the Western Wall Plaza would be packed, to hold a demonstration.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LET US SOLVE OUR DISPUTES

Sir, - I was at the Wall - I stood between the insistence of the Conservative Movement to change Jewish tradition and the passion of the haredim to resist that change.

Also distributed to the haredim the Eda Haredit announcement that violence is wrong and the way to solve conflicts is through verbal exchange. This statement was posted all over the Western Wall plaza and the adjoining Jewish Quarter.

point, Tisha Be'Av, commemorates the destruction of our holy Temple. This catastrophe in Jewish history was the culmination of events arising out of hatred between Jews and has been the source of Jewish suffering since that time.

Our value system Sir, - We are subjected to a revisionist Zionist history and now to add to the celebration of a century of Zionism, we are told that we should change our value system (Amy Klein's op-ed, "Glad it's Gefen," July 28).

to preserve our existence. Klein's message is not singular. Several recent events come to mind. Did the music mavens have to choose Richard Wagner's music for the pageantry at the opening ceremony of the Maccabiah?

Messianic Ad Sir, - In regard to the Messianic Congregational Action Committee's ad of July 25, at last Messianic Jews have openly admitted they are not a branch of Judaism as they deceitfully claim, but simply Christian missionaries holding to the same beliefs as evangelical Christians with whom they align themselves.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On August 13, 1937, The Palestine Post reported that the "Strong Man of Iraq," Chief of Iraqi General Staff, Beker Sidky Pasha Al-Askari was shot dead by a soldier at the Mosul landing ground.

Colonial Secretary, Arthur Creech Jones, during the House of Commons debate on Palestine. He said that despite a grave and extremely difficult situation, and hundreds of British military, police and civilian casualties, his government would not flinch from any measures calculated to destroy the evil of terrorism and to bring justice.

Colonies, warned explicitly that a collective fine would fall on the innocents as well as on the guilty. 25 years ago: On August 13, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that the US had again told Egypt of the necessity of direct talks with Israel.

Reform the regulators

PINCHAS LANDAU

The Netanyahu government, which is hooked on words, announcements and proclamations, is intent on taking the process of "structural reform" in the Israeli economy to its ultimate, absurd but logically inevitable conclusion.

appointing a new head to the Securities Authority should be seen in a much wider context. The overall regulation of the Israeli capital market is a mess. This is widely recognized, and Minkovitch himself proposed a reform several years ago, under which the various regulatory authorities - the Securities Authority, which covers the issuance and trading of securities, the Supervisor of Banks, who deals with all aspects of banking activity, and the Supervisor of Insurance and Capital Markets Commissioner at the Treasury (a hybrid function in an understaffed and under-qualified department with a poor track record) - would be combined.

The overall regulation of the Israeli capital market is a mess

POSTSCRIPT

ON A RECENT Alitalia flight, Yohanan Goldman of Tel Aviv was browsing the in-flight magazine. The leading candidate for the job is the current Supervisor of Banks at the Bank of Israel, Ze'ev Abeles - and he is indeed suited for the job. Certainly, Abeles is infinitely preferable to any political appointee that Netanyahu and his aides may come up with.

Japan... 25 tips... Southern Landscap...

Orish

that planned... New York... Jerusalem... Orish... that planned... New York... Jerusalem... Orish... that planned... New York... Jerusalem... Orish...

Arts & crafts fair opens today

By SHERYL KATZ

A melting pot of cultures from as far afield as Malawi, Mexico and Myanmar will be represented at the 25th International Arts and Crafts Fair, which celebrates 30 years of a united Jerusalem by hosting 30 countries. The fair starts today and runs through August 24 at the capital's Mitchell Garden, Sultan's Pool and the Khutsot Hayotser Arts and Crafts Center.

Mayor Ehud Olmert says he hopes ticket sales will surpass last year's 60,000 by at least 20,000. They might well do so, since this year's fair boasts new and exciting features. Not only are there more international crafts on display, there are also works of 150 local artists and artisans, including prints, silk screening, ceramics, metalwork, jewelry, weaving, textiles, Judaica, toys, applied arts, leather and carpentry.

Other features include international cuisine at an array of food stores and a pub.

New on the agenda are guided night tours of the city: one includes the ramparts and gates of the Old City and Mount Zion; another tour encompasses the most exciting archaeological finds from the Second Temple period through today.

Tue-rappers will enjoy nightly complimentary concerts (9:00) on the fair grounds. Tonight's concert features the Bustan Avraham band with its original blend of East/West music. Composer/lyricist Ronit Shahar performs tomorrow night.

The post-Shabbat line-up kicks off with pop/jazz singer Mika Karni (Saturday), followed by the band Avtipus (Sunday), a rock concert featuring Arcadi Duchin and the Lemons (Monday), Trio Indio — a Spanish-music-lover's treat (Tuesday), singer/songwriter Jeremy Kaplan and the Flowers (Wednesday), Ehud Banai (Thursday), Assaf Amdursky (August 23), and eternal rocker Ariel Zilber wraps it up on August 24.

An international pavilion will host exotic exhibits and fascinating guest artisans from around the world. Next year, fair director Sara Malka aims to celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary by hosting 50 countries. She hopes by then the fair will be big enough to fill the entire area up to the Cinematheque.

Jerusalem's police chief, Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki, says security measures will reflect current national precautionary standards.

The fair will be open every evening (except Fridays) from 6 to 11:30, and on Saturday evenings from the end of Shabbat until midnight. At the northern entrance to the fair, the permanent artists of Khutsot Hayotser Arts and Crafts Center will display their works. The public can visit, browse and see them in action from Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on Friday until 2 p.m.

Entrance fee: adults, NIS 26; children (six to 13), NIS 20.



An Indonesian artist at last year's fair carves wooden masks. This year's fair promises to be bigger and better than ever.

Summer Breeza makes us feel fine

By AMY KLEIN

OK, last summer festival. This time it's great music and atmosphere with beer and food. From August 16 to 21, the Breeza Festival will adorn Ashkelon Park. The festival is sponsored by Carlsberg, which will be bringing 25 brands of beer to the festival.

This is the third consecutive year of the festival, which emphasizes "the tavern atmosphere on the Mediterranean." They expect 40,000 people to attend the festivities.

The three major concerts will be held in the amphitheater beginning at 8 p.m. On Saturday night, Yehuda Poliker will perform, with guest Gidi Gov. On Tuesday, Shlomo Artzi returns.

And for the final night of the concert, Ethnix, the pop band with a Mizrahi influence will host a true Mizrahi musician, Eyal Golan. This up-and-coming musician is trying to revitalize classic Middle-Eastern music with his preppie appeal and mainstream lyrics.

Smaller concerts will also be taking place on the northern and southern stages of the restaurant circle, which will have a wide array of ethnic eateries.

Some of the performers on the smaller stages include Margalit Tzani, Shlomi Samra, Aviva Avidan, Antonio and Ronit,



Eyal Golan gives Middle Eastern music a young, preppie appeal.

Keeping the Faith

By CHARLES SOLOMON

Music critics need to attach labels to artists. But if there is one group that defies categorization, it's Faith No More, which is due to play two shows in Israel, on August 19 at Haifa's City Hall and on August 20 at Tel Aviv's Cinerama.

Faith No More plays an eclectic, frenetic fusion of hard-hitting punk, funk, rap, jazz, yet its biggest hit is a schmaltzy rendition of The Commodores/Lionel Richie classic "I'm Easy."

But if you think you are going to be treated to an evening of syrupy cover versions by a laid-back bunch of hippies from San Francisco, you will be in for a shock.

Faith No More was formed in 1982 in California. The original members came from disparate musical backgrounds, and the blueprint pointed to a group that was going to be pulled, bent, and stretched in all directions — yet they have managed to gel into a unit.

In 1985 the group released its debut album. It was not long before word got around of the group's commercial potential, and a year later it released "Introduce Yourself."

Faith No More's musical smorgasbord is very different from that of Guns n' Roses and Metallica, and if it has to be compared to one group, it would be L.A.'s Red Hot Chili Peppers, which has also mixed unlikely and disparate musical influences into a unified whole.

Faith No More began building a huge European fan base, and in 1988 the group was rewarded with its first British chart success, "We Care a Lot." Britain's usually fickle audiences, always suspicious of straight-ahead American rock groups, were attracted to the band's quirky music, and the group soon became more popular in the UK than it was in its native country.

The *Real Thing* soon followed, which many consider to be the group's finest hour. The album sold over 500,000 copies. The hits soon started to flow.

Between 1990 and 1993, the group notched up eight British hit singles.

Faith No More consolidated its commercial success with the release of its fourth album, *Angel Dust*. But it was on shaky ground with its fifth album, *King for a Day, Fool for a Lifetime*.

However, the band managed to bounce back with the critically acclaimed *Album of the Year*.

This is Faith No More's second visit to Israel. For those who missed this group in 1995, it's an opportunity to see one of America's most exciting and enigmatic hard rock bands. Second timers won't be disappointed.



Faith No More: Taking it 'Easy'

Fringe benefits

By JILL SERJEANT

Three young men lie spread-eagled on the pavement. A motley crew of "punks" in wheelchairs stop the traffic as they creep slowly across the road. A car daubed with posters and paint urges passersby to "Follow me to the garage, Venue 81."

With 1,278 shows planned in 14,297 performances competing for audiences that average only seven people a night, there are few limits to the tactics employed by performers at the Edinburgh Fringe to attract viewers.

Scotland's capital city stages a series of cultural festivals in August that are the envy of the world.

Offerings by the famous Fringe this year include four different productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, a show featuring two naked men shoveling more than a ton of excrement, Australian aborigine dancing and a musical based on tunes from Quentin Tarantino's cult movies.

Each year the search is on for the Fringe show that will one night find itself playing to an audience of none. Each year at least one Fringe show will make headlines for plumbing new depths of obscenity, blasphemy or sheer nonsense.

But the lure of the Fringe, which does not censor productions,

shows no sign of diminishing. "The Edinburgh Festival Fringe is on its finest form yet," said Fringe director Hilary Strong.

"The Fringe has been criticized quite heavily because of a lack of quality control, but that has been the single most important factor in its success over the past 50 years.

"The minute you go down the value-judgement route you are losing the chance to let people try something different," she said.

With ticket sales already up 6 percent for the hectic three-week event, the Fringe has announced that it will start a week earlier in 1998 to reap maximum benefit from the tourists.

Finding performance space appears to be no problem. Church halls, community centers and wine bars are for established acts. A multi-story car park, the back of a lorry and Edinburgh's underground vaults are among the more innovative of the 187 venues used by Fringe performers from all corners of the world.

The Fringe, which started in 1947 with just eight companies upset at being left out of the official festival, has opened the door in the past to comedy stars. But this year music has finally surpassed comedy as the second biggest attraction after theater, with 320 groups playing music from classical to salsa and bebop.

(Reuters)

Esta: Israeli rock 'n' roll in New York

By BLAINE HARDEN

Nobody wants to hear Israeli rock-and-roll. It is ridiculous," says Shlomo Deshet, an Israeli drummer who has joined three of his countrymen in cooking up a wildly original sound that is to formulaic rock 'n' roll what homemade borscht is to Campbell's chicken noodle soup.

The band, called Esta, blends percussive jazz with unruly Balkan folk. It melds country-western with "stuff we stole from the Hassidim." It fuses the Turkish banjo with the Scottish bagpipe, and somehow makes it all musically whole. At its core, Esta's music has a raucous, foot-stomping energy that's driven by Deshet, who is a formidable rock drummer.

"People like to categorize music. But we don't want to be obligated to any forms or any traditions," says Deshet who, with his fellow band members, admits to being an equal-opportunity thief, stealing from every musical tradition he has ever heard — if it suits the integrity of an Esta composition.

The band, which is planning another American tour in September, has been polishing its sound for the better part of 15 years.

Two of the band members — Deshet and guitarist Ori Binshok — began playing together when they were schoolboys in Tel Aviv. They met the two other members of the band when they all were doing military service.

It was during long practice sessions in a bomb shelter in Tel Aviv in the 1980s that the band developed its distinctive sound. "We played literally underground for seven years. When it is peacetime in Israel, the city gives the bomb shelters to artists," says Deshet.

When they were above ground, the musicians often worked separately as accompanists to some of Israel's best folk and popular singers. Their period of apprenticeship ended in 1991, when they cast their professional lot together and moved to Greenwich Village.

"We had to come to New York and make our band a matter of life or death. If it was not going to be Esta, it was going to be nothing," Deshet says. After six years in New York, when it was clear that they had succeeded in becoming more than nothing, they moved back to Israel last spring. They are now prepared to help shape the country's musical tradition.

"We have been too dominated by Western influences," Deshet



Esta fuses the Turkish banjo with the Scottish bagpipe.

Crossroads, band members have learned how to dress up their musicianship in an onstage performing style that is both exuberant and embracing.

During a New York farewell performance this spring, before a sold-out audience in Greenwich Village, the band made a grand entrance to the white of a bagpipe and the pounding of hand-held African drums. Such an entrance is calculated to startle and disorient the audience, says Amir Gwartzman, the band's saxophonist, bagpipe player and master of nearly a dozen obscure wind instruments.

"What we want to do is turn our concerts into a kind of Middle Eastern party," Gwartzman says. "We want to break down the wall between audience and performer. First people are surprised, and then we are closer to them."

Having reached out to the audience as something other than coolly professional musicians, the band tore into a composition entitled "Turkish Western." Musically speaking, it's a song in which a whirling dervish runs headlong into the soundtrack from Sergio Leone's *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. The audience, clapping and smiling, had a hard time staying in their seats.

(The Washington Post)

says, "Israel is an evolving culture, and we want to be part of the evolution." The band's name translates as *oom-pah* in Hebrew slang. It is the simplest of folk rhythms, and the band builds on it with a seemingly infinite variety of sounds, rhythms, and folk traditions.

Just reaching back to the songs they heard as kids growing up with immigrant parents, they can plug into the music of Iraq, Poland, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, and Russia. To serve

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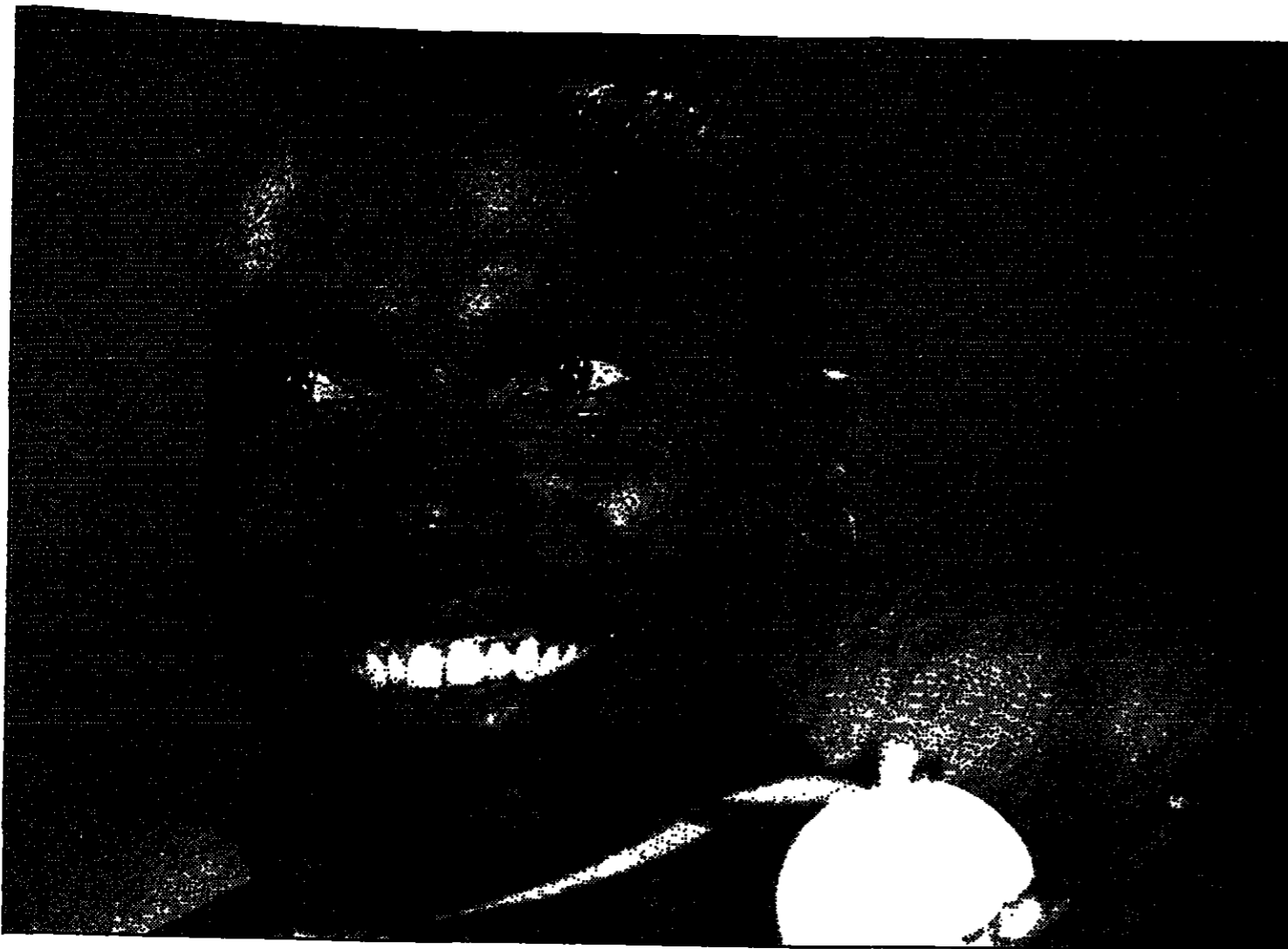
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GOLD RUSH - Wilson Kipketer will try to earn himself a kilo of gold in Zurich tonight by breaking the 800m world record.

Kipketer looks to break Coe's 800m record in Zurich tonight

ZURICH (Reuters) - Denmark's former Kenyan Wilson Kipketer will try to erase the oldest and most prestigious world record from the books today and, with it, the name of one of the greatest middle-distance runners ever - Britain's Sebastian Coe.

After equalling Coe's world record of one minute 41.73 seconds for the 800 meters in Stockholm earlier in the season, the double world champion will run in the most lucrative grand prix meeting in athletics looking to make history and more than \$130,000.

Canadian takes on newly-crowned world champion Maurice Greene in a sprint field containing seven of the eight finalists from Athens.

Wright double strike boosts England claim

LONDON (Reuters) - A double strike by the predatory Ian Wright shot Arsenal to a 2-0 victory over Coventry at Highbury on Monday night and strengthened his claim to injured Alan Shearer's England shirt against Moldova next month.

short of Cliff Bastin's all-time Arsenal scoring record of 178 set in the 1930s and 40s.

Women bowlers off to Atlantic Rim tourney

Israel's National Women's five-up squad are off to Wales to participate in the third biennial "Atlantic Rim" tournament from August 21 to September 2.

ous event, winning the golds in the singles, pairs, triples and the silver in the fours - the latter won by Scotland.

Betar in tough test against Sporting Lisbon

Betar Jerusalem host Sporting Lisbon, one of the grand old clubs of Europe tonight at Teddy Stadium in the first leg of the second preliminary round of the European Champions' Cup.

been strengthened significantly over the last six months thanks to a clutch of new transfers.

Hapoel PT return from Denmark with goalless draw

Hapoel Petah Tikva can take great heart from their 0-0 draw with Denmark's Vejle in the UEFA Cup second preliminary round first-leg last night.

It will be no comfort for Betar fans that Pedro Barbosa, the man who hit three goals past Haifa back in September 1994, is likely to be in Octavio Machado's starting line-up.

They must make sure there is no such repetition of this poor form against the Danes.

Jayasuriya continues to flay India

COLOMBO (Reuters) - Sanath Jayasuriya continued his run spree by lashing 199 and Aravinda de Silva struck his second hundred of the match as Sri Lanka flayed India in the second and final Test yesterday.



Pakistan at Faisalabad in 1995-96. Jayasuriya passed the 1,000 mark when he was on 85. His tally for the year had reached 1,114 in eight Tests and 15 innings when he was finally bowled by paceman Abey Kuruvilla.

Barnes set to join West Ham

LONDON (AP) - Former England player John Barnes, who was given a free transfer from Liverpool after 10 years service, will sign for West Ham, the London club's management announced yesterday.

John. We've got John's word on that, and that's good enough.

Henning Berg joins Man Utd

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - Norwegian defender Henning Berg joined English champions Manchester United on Monday in a deal worth £5 million.

onship-winning side of 1994-95 under Kenny Dalglish but with the close season arrivals of Stéphane Henchoz and Patrick Valery lost his place in the team.

Warriors deal Mullin to Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Chris Mullin joined the NBA's Indiana Pacers yesterday, leaving the Golden State Warriors and bringing his soft shot and sharp passes to a team now coached by former Olympic teammate Larry Bird.

The trade is contingent on all three players passing physical exams. Mullin, in New York and unavailable for comment, is expected to be in Indianapolis today.

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertisement section containing various classifieds such as DWELLINGS, RENTALS, SITUATIONS VACANT, and HOUSEHOLD HELP. Includes contact information for various real estate agencies and services.

CRITICS' CHOICE

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** GROSSE POINTE BLANK - In this mordant little comedy, John Cusack plays a professional assassin who returns to his Michigan hometown for the first time in a decade to attend his high-school reunion. The joke, of course, is that Cusack looks more milkman than hitman: he has searching eyes, pudgy cheeks and the lanky build of a teenager, and despite the fact that cold-blooded murder is his character's line of work, he blushes and can't keep his voice from going flutters when he's reunited with his old girlfriend (Minnie Driver). Directed by George Armitage, the film belongs to an emotionally limited but amusing category of hip satirical picture - of which Heathers is probably the classic example - that treat adolescence in the American suburbs as the banal, upper-middle-class equivalent of coming of age in hell. With Dan Aykroyd, Alan Arkin and Joan Cusack, John's real-life sister (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)



John Cusack plays a goofy professional assassin in 'Grosse Pointe Blank.'

**** AFTERGLOW - Alan Rudolph's complicated prism of a film focuses on a pair of troubled couples (Julie Christie and Nick Nolte, Lara Flynn Boyle and Jonny Lee Miller) caught at different, desperate stages in their lives and loves. The movie takes Rudolph's usual romantic sensitivity even further, into the Keatsian realm of negative capability: "when man is capable of being in uncertainties." Not only does the director clearly empathize in varying but intense degrees with at least three of the main characters and their contradictory desires, he asks of us that we do the same. To a great extent he succeeds, largely because of his wonderful actors, but also because he shows an unusual willingness to let a scene hover between apparently irreconcilable tones (gloom and silliness, say) and between traditionally incompatible forms (soap opera and slapstick). In the hands of a lesser director, this might just make for a wispy-wispy movie. As in all of his best work, though, Rudolph piles on so much powerful sentiment, the result is incredibly - almost tooth-achingly - rich, only more complex and alive for its overflow of unspoken emotion. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

**** PRIVATE PARTS - Based on the autobiography of the rude, crude New York radio personality, Howard Stern, Betty Thomas's film is one of the more entertaining bits of celebrity self-aggrandizement to surface in a long time. Actually, the movie - which stars Stern as himself - works by means of a clever blend of self-love and self-mockery, as it also further develops the tricky trompe-l'oeil technique that he has perfected on his WNBC radio show. To hear Stern tell it, no subject is off limits for on-air discussion. His improvised banter appears to be brutally honest and totally intimate, and his massive public appeal is based on the fact that his honesty knows no bounds. While such total frankness is a fine claim to fame, it is, of course, not true. Stern's straight-talking, wise-cracking radio persona is just that - a persona. And if there's one thing that his inspired movie debut makes clear it's that he is, above all, a fantastic actor. A man who has cast himself in the part of soul-baring vulgarian and thoroughly mastered the role. Featuring a blend of actors and real-life movie personalities, as themselves. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

PRIME TIME TV

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Includes channels like NEWS, EDUCATIONAL TV, MIDDLE EAST TV, and MOVIE CHANNEL 4.

ARABIC PROGRAMS

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Lists Arabic language content from various channels.

HEBREW PROGRAMS

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Lists Hebrew language content from various channels.

CHILDREN'S

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Lists children's programming from various channels.

SPORTS

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Lists sports programming from various channels.

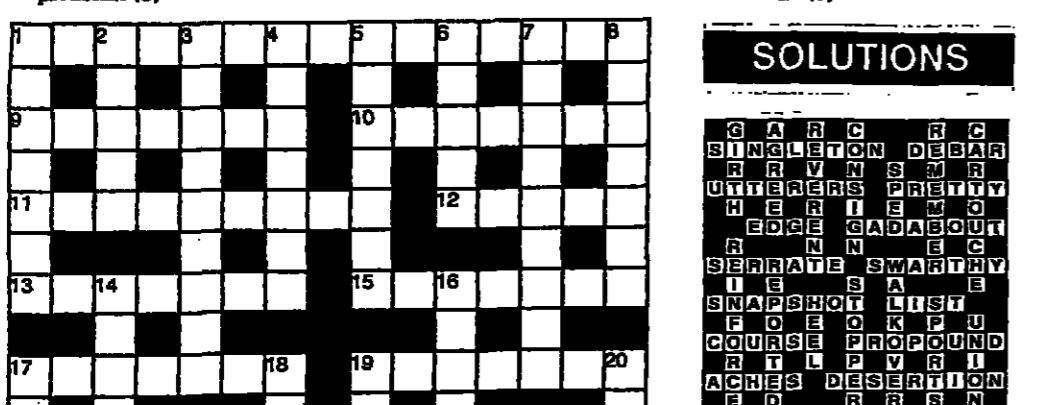
MOVIES

Table with 3 columns: Channel, Program Name, and Time Slot. Lists movie programming from various channels.

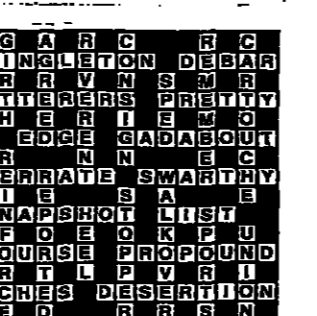


CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Highland fling (7,3,5)
9 Quickly get to the point in Lancashire (7)
10 Recommended by Dave and Sid by accident (7)
11 Astonished, almost certain it had been levered open (9)
12 A 24 comes back for a brush (5)
13 Paddy has a painting medium (7)
15 Book that isn't one's first choice (7)
17 Greeted Sarah performing duet (7)
19 Bumper cheque! (7)
21 Resort before mid-afternoon is more pleasant (5)
23 Beginning in this French part I have (9)
25 Considered even if before time (7)
26 Whittish mineral from another clue, just the thing, expedition leader concluded (7)
27 One skilled at teaching woodwork? (6,9)
DOWN
1 Some stereotypes etched were ready for printing (7)
2 Promise to use bad language (5)
3 Cut across its centre drastically (9)
4 Gets in a fresh flower (7)
5 It is more difficult to protect empty miser (7)
6 About a third of villagers make petty objections (5)
7 See Winchester or Portsmouth perhaps (9)
8 Most of the set before tea-break mother left in a charge promises to pay (9)
14 Ill-natured one left in form of arm? (9)
17 Can't change quantity of money going round holy place (7)
18 Is cited in error about a believer (7)
19 Collapsible shield? (7)
20 Another doe going into the back, say, of another animal (3-4)
22 Some here guessing who is the rascal (6)
24 Stupid person, one with Dorothy going round island (6)



SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution:
ACROSS: 7 Keeper, 8 Counts, 10 Lapping, 11 Never, 12 Ewer, 13 Mower, 17 Relax, 18 Solo, 23 Aurora, 23 Ceramics, 24 Appal, 26 Sicilia.
DOWN: 1 Skilled, 2 Perplex, 3 Begit, 4 Counsel, 5 Enave, 6 Usury, 9 Ignorance, 14 Several, 15 Klisiba, 16 Dominant, 19 Fatal, 20 Puffy, 21 Wager.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Upper limit (7)
8 Strikes soundly (6)
9 Cajoling (7)
11 Coarser (8)
12 Protect (5)
14 Children's game (1-3)
15 Par (8)
17 Fuss (8)
18 Side (4)
20 Crest (5)
21 Response (8)
23 Assert (7)
24 Rescue (anag.) (6)
25 E Anglian town (7)
DOWN
2 Migration (6)
3 Richness (6)
4 Zero (4)
5 Food fish (7)
6 Set in motion (9)
7 Covered sports-centre (9)
10 Mollusc (8)
12 Meaningless words (9)
13 Pieces of equipment (9)
16 Enigma (7)
18 Candle grease (5)
19 Mushroom (6)
22 Small tide (4)

